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- (71) Anmelder (für alle Bestimmungsstaaten mit Ausnahme von US): **EPIGENOMICS AG [DE/DE]**; Kastanienallee 24, 10435 Berlin (DE).
- (72) Erfinder; und
- (75) Erfinder/Anmelder (nur für US): **OLEK, Alexander [DE/DE]**; Schröderstrasse 13/2, 10115 Berlin (DE). **PIEPENBROCK, Christian [DE/DE]**; Schwartzkopffstrasse 7b, 10115 Berlin (DE). **BERLIN, Kurt [DE/DE]**; Marienkäferweg 4, 14532 Stahnsdorf (DE).
- (74) Anwälte: **SCHOHE, Stefan** usw.; Boehmert & Boehmert, Franz-Joseph-Strasse 38, 80801 München (DE).

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Zur Erklärung der Zweibuchstaben-Codes und der anderen Abkürzungen wird auf die Erklärungen ("Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations") am Anfang jeder regulären Ausgabe der PCT-Gazette verwiesen.

(54) Title: **DIAGNOSIS OF DISEASES ASSOCIATED WITH THE IMMUNE SYSTEM**

(54) Bezeichnung: **DIAGNOSE VON MIT DEM IMMUNSYSTEM ASSOZIIERTEN KRANKHEITEN**

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to chemically modified genomic sequences of genes associated with the immune system, an oligonucleotide directed against said sequence and/or PNA oligomers for the detection of the methylation state of cytosine of genes associated with the immune system. The invention also relates to a method for determining genetic and/or epigenetic parameters of genes associated with the immune system.

(57) Zusammenfassung: Die vorliegende Erfindung betrifft die chemisch modifizierte genomische Sequenzen von mit dem Immunsystem assoziierten Genen, gegen die Sequenz gerichtete Oligonukleotide und/oder PNA-Oligomere zur Detektion des Cytosin-Methylierungszustandes von mit dem Immunsystem assoziierten Genen sowie ein Verfahren zur Ermittlung von genetischen und/oder epigenetischen Parametern von mit dem Immunsystem assoziierten Genen.

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**Nucleic acid comprising fragment of chemically modified gene, useful for
diagnosis and treatment of diseases associated with abnormal cytosine
methylation**

Patent Assignee: EPIGENOMICS AG (EPIG-N)

Inventor: BERLIN K; OLEK A; PIEPENBROCK C

Number of Countries: 095 Number of Patents: 002

Patent Family:

Patent No	Kind	Date	Applicat No	Kind	Date	Week
WO 200200928	A2	20020103	WO 2001EP7537	A	20010702	200217 B
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Priority Applications (No Type Date): DE 1043826 A 20000901; DE 1032529 A
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Patent No	Kind	Lan	Pg	Main IPC	Filing Notes
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JP KE KG KP KR KZ LC LK LR LS LT LU LV MA MD MG MK MN MW MX MZ NO NZ PL
PT RO RU SD SE SG SI SK SL TJ TM TR TT TZ UA UG US UZ VN YU ZA ZW

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AU 200187575	A			C12Q-001/68	Based on patent WO 200200928
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Abstract (Basic): WO 200200928 A2

NOVELTY - A nucleic acid (I) comprising a segment of at least 18
bases of a chemical pretreated DNA of a gene (A) associated with the
immune system, or its complement, where (A) is any one of 2420
sequences not given in the specification, is new.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION - INDEPENDENT CLAIMS are also included for the
following:

(1) oligomers (II) (oligonucleotides or peptide-nucleic acid (PNA)
oligomers) for detecting the status of cytosine methylation in
chemically treated DNA and comprising at least 9 nucleotides able to
hybridize to chemically pretreated (A) or their complements;

(2) a set of at least two (II);

(3) preparing an array of (II) on a solid phase;

(4) arrays produced by method (3);

(5) DNA and/or PNA arrays, for analysis of diseases related to
methylation status of genes, containing at least one (I);

(6) detecting genetic and/or epigenetic parameters for diagnosis
and/or treatment of diseases (or predisposition) by analysis of
cytosine methylation; and

(7) a kit containing bisulfite and (II).

ACTIVITY - Antiasthmatic; antiarteriosclerotic; antianemic;
cytostatic; nootropic; neuroprotective; anti-HIV; anticonvulsant;
ophthalmological; antirheumatic; antiarthritic; antidiabetic;
antipsoriatic; antiinflammatory. No details of tests for any of these
activities are given.

MECHANISM OF ACTION - None given in the source material.

USE - (I), and related oligomers (II) (or arrays of (II)), are
useful for diagnosis, prognosis and/or treatment of immune system

disorders, particularly where associated with aberrant cytosine methylation of the specified genes, e.g. eye diseases ((diabetic) retinopathy, neovascular glaucoma or macular degeneration); arteriosclerosis; anemia; (pancreatic) cancer; acute myeloid leukemia; Alzheimer's disease; AIDS; epilepsy; neurofibromatosis; rheumatoid arthritis; psoriasis; and inflammatory/ulcerative bowel diseases.

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Technology Focus:

TECHNOLOGY FOCUS - BIOTECHNOLOGY - Preferred Gene: More than 300

(A) are tabulated, with their GenBank accession numbers.

Preferred Oligomer: These include at least one CpG dinucleotide, particularly in the middle third of the sequence. The set of at least 2 (II) particularly contains:

(i) (II) for determining the methylation status of all CpG dinucleotides from (A);

(ii) primer oligonucleotides for amplification of (A) or their complements (in this case the oligomers may be immobilized); or

(iii) at least 10 oligomers for detecting both cytosine methylation and/or single nucleotide polymorphisms in (A).

Preferred Array: (II) are arranged on a flat surface (of silicon, polystyrene, aluminum, steel, iron, copper, nickel, silver or gold) in a rectangular or hexagonal pattern.

Preferred Process: In method (6), a genomic DNA sample is treated, especially with bisulfite than alkali, to convert 5-unmethylated cytosines to uracil (or some other base with base-pairing properties different from those of cytosine) and fragments are amplified from the treated DNA using primer-(II). The amplicons, which include a detectable label, are then tested for hybridization to a set, or array, of probe-(II), and hybridized amplicons detected. At least 10 different fragments, of 100-2000 base pairs (bp), are amplified, in the same vessel, using a heat-stable polymerase and polymerase chain reaction for amplification. The amplicons are labeled with a fluorophore, radionuclide or a releasable molecular fragment of known mass, detectable by mass spectrometry (MS). Especially the amplicons, or their fragments (especially those with a single net charge for improved detection), are detected by MS, particularly using the matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionization or electrospray ionization techniques. The DNA being tested is isolated from e.g. cell lines, biopsies, blood, paraffin-embedded tissues etc.

